Two or 3 in House Linked to Perjury, Jaworski Indicates

By Robert L. Jackson Los Angeles Times

The Korean influence investigation has developed evidence of perjury involving two or three congressmen, Leon Jaworski, special counsel to the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, said yesterday.

Jaworski, in an interview in his office, said the committee must pass judgment on these congressmen, whom he declined to name. Their cases could be referred to the Justice Department for prosecution with the panel's approval, he said.

"We think the misrepresentations have been such that probably there has been perjury," Jaworski said.

The former Watergate special prosecutor said he referred to instances where congressmen had denied, either orally under oath or in sworn written statements, that they had dealings with Tongsun Park which the committee later documented.

Park, the South Korean rice broker accused of being a foreign agent, has testified he gave about \$850,000 to 31 present or former congressmen. The committee has corroborated much of Park's testimony, Jaworski said.

In his first public assessment of the case in nearly three months, Jaworski said Park's testimony about his dealings with congressmen was generally credible.

"It was probably as he understood the facts to be," Jaworski said.

But he termed "laughable" Park's assertions that he was never an agent of the South Korean government. Jaworski said there was "ample evidence" that Park had dealt repeatedly with the Korean Central Intelligence

Agency and that Park's job as principal rice broker had been dependent on the KCIA's approval.

"I don't have the slightest doubt he was serving as a foreign agent, although he wasn't on anybody's payroll," Jaworski said.

Park earned \$9 million in commissions from 1969 to 1975 on purchases of U.S. rice for his government.

Evidence of Park's role as a foreign agent is crucial to the committee's investigation. The U.S. Constitution forbids acceptance of gifts from foreign agents by members of Congress or the executive branch.

Jaworski said the committee's investigation, to be completed in the next few months, would show "gradations of wrongdoing" by perhaps 24 past or present congressmen.

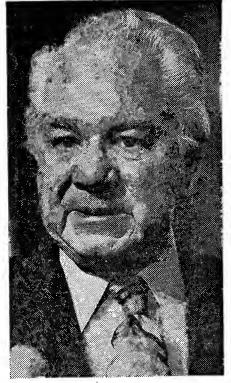
Aside from potential perjury cases against present House members, the chief offense has been "the acceptance of clearly illegal contributions," he said.

"Now some may say, "We had no idea he was a foreign agent," Jaworski said.

"But here's a guy who represents South Korean interests. It was clear he was doing that. He was not a citizen of this country. And the amount of interest he was showing, the action he was taking and the discussions he had with congressmen clearly showed that he was serving as an agent."

Jaworski said he was surprised that Park had disbursed less than \$1 million to congressmen out of earnings in excess of \$9 million.

"I thought we were going to find that probably more money than that had gone to public officials," Jaworski said of Park's testimony.



LEON JAWORSKI
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Asked if Park might be protecting some recipients, Jaworski replied:

"He may be doing a little bit of it, but I don't think he's doing it on any wholesale basis."

Jaworski said early reports about the size of the scandal may have been exaggerated.

"Those in the early days who were saying this is something that affects half the members of Congress just didn't know what they were talking about," he said. "We know better now. But if it affected no more than a dozen, it's still a dozen too many."

In a related development yesterday, the Senate Ethics Committee announced that Park would return here from Seoul late next month to testify publicly about his lobbying among senators.

Park has reportedly testified in closed-door sessions that he gave campaign contributions totaling about \$21,000 to eight present or former senators.

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